

Remarks

Applicants and the undersigned thank Examiner Mulcahy for carefully reviewing this application. Applicants submit the following amendments to the claims and remarks. Reconsideration of the application in view of the claim amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

By the present communication claims 12-25 have been withdrawn from consideration, and claims 1-11 and 26 have been maintained in their original or previously presented form. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1-26 are pending and claims 1-11 and 26 are under active prosecution.

Restriction Requirement

Applicants hereby elect Group I, corresponding to claims 1-11 and 26, for examination, without traverse.

Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete Response to the Non-Final Office Action dated December 24, 2009. Applicant has made a diligent effort to advance the prosecution of the application by responding to the pending restriction requirement. Applicant has not acquiesced to any rejection and reserves the right to address the patentability of any additional claim features in the future. In view of the above, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

As the one-month statutory period for reply expires on January 24, 2010, Applicant hereby submits this response is timely filed. Should, however, the Commissioner deem any fees

as being due, including any fees for any extensions of time, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit said fees from, or credit any overpayments to, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP, USPTO Deposit Account Number 50-0259, Reference No. 061778.002.

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned via telephone at the number below if a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michael F. Hay
Registration No. 54,155
BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP
P.O. Box 61389
Houston, Texas 77208-1389
Telephone: (713) 221-1439
Email: michael.hay@bgllp.com
Attorneys for Applicant